



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

April 18, 2003

Ms. Lois M. Kimbol
Dechert LLP
4000 Bell Atlantic Tower
1717 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2793

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



362874

Re: Eagle Zinc Site
Hillsboro, Illinois

Dear Lois:

Thank you for your letter dated March 19, 2003, providing an update on plant shutdown activities. After reviewing the letter, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has a few follow up questions and comments that it would like to address with you:

- 1) On page 2, you state that portions of at least two buildings on the site may not be safe enough to clean out or even to enter. Could you please provide further information on the exact locations of these areas, on what materials may be left there or may have been stored there, and on why the areas are unsafe? Now that the plant is shut down, it is important to characterize the nature and extent of any contamination in and around the buildings to ensure that the remedial activities adequately address all contamination at the site. Moreover, if the buildings are in an unsafe condition, it is important to understand the available options for minimizing the hazards they may pose. (The initial RI/FS approach assumed operations would continue and so did not focus on these issues.) Further information on the condition of, and contamination in, these areas is especially important if these areas are either used in the future or redeveloped by another party.
- 2) Please provide reports from Safety-Kleen that show the results of their work at the site, as described on page 2. In particular, it would be helpful to obtain details on where the contamination/waste was located, on what it consisted of, on any sample results, and on the off-site disposal activities (dates, quantities, locations, characterizations). U.S. EPA anticipates that T.L. Diamond will likely prepare some sort of overall site "closure" report documenting its activities in more detail. If that is the case, could you inform us when you expect to have that report available?
- 3) Because it appears that plant operations and sale/disposal of material at the site are now complete, U.S. EPA expects that T.L. Diamond should soon have a clear picture of its available resources for site remediation. Please advise me at your earliest convenience when you will be able to confer with U.S. EPA representatives to go through financial details.

Thank you for the information you have provided and for your continuing cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Krueger', written over the printed name.

Thomas J. Krueger
Associate Regional Counsel

cc: Dion Novak, U.S. EPA ✓
Rick Lanham, IEPA